

# Family Fish Camp

For years the mouth of Lower Redwood Creek was the center of several thriving Yurok fishing communities: *O-reqw*, *O-tmekwo'r*, and *Si'gwets*. Locals said the fish here were once so plentiful, they sounded as loud as “horses in the creek.” Elders told stories about walking across this creek on the backs of the salmon. Yurok children said they felt like they were “swimming on top of fish.”

Today, even though fish populations are reduced, local Yurok families retain strong ties to the site. People still come to gather ocean smelt and surf fish.



For thousands of years, Yuroks have used dip nets to catch surf fish here.



Yurok Jim Marks owned this fish camp, called *Si'gwets*, located on the sand spit between the ocean and the Redwood Creek estuary. Children guarded the drying fish from gulls, about 1928.